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MC&G Main file
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MCGWG-M-35

COMIREX MAPPING, CHARTING AND GEODESY WORKING GROUP

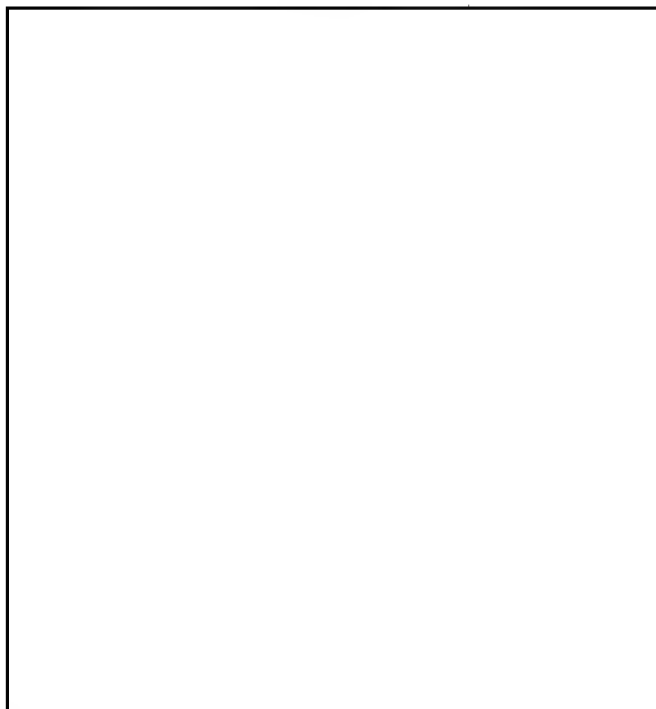
Minutes of Meeting Held in Room 1D918

Pentagon

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

1300-1500, 5 July 1968

PRESIDING



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Purpose of Meeting - General

1. The purpose of the meeting was primarily to complete an MC&G Working Group paper on improving position accuracies by KH-4B Mission 1104. Specifically, the meeting was scheduled to note information from NRO concerning mission characteristics.

Recommendations for KH-4B Mission 1104 for Improving Positioning Accuracies

2. a. In the previous meeting held on 20 June 1968 (see paragraph 2. of M-34), it was concluded that the best approach to meet MC&G objectives at this time was to hold the normal inclination and change the launch time from approximately 2130Z to 0130Z. This conclusion was reached after reviewing and discussing the paper prepared by the Sub-Working Group dated 17 June 1968 and

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signed by [] indicated that very few comments had been received from Working Group members concerning the substantive information developed by the Sub-Working Group. However, a draft paper was prepared and tabled which included restating the principal background with the general outline of other data to be included. It was indicated that most of the information was in hand, except the characteristics of the mission if launched at 0130 hours to be furnished by [] and further information on the possible effects on photo interpretation.

b. [] supplied the following information just received from NRO analyses of mission characteristics:

(1) There would be 6 passes that would tie together geodetic control areas extending across the targets requiring improvement, and that 4 passes would occur within the first half of the mission and 2 in the second half.

(2) In addition to the coverage normally obtained on descending passes, it would be possible to obtain coverage on ascending passes which would conservatively increase the total coverage per mission by 30 to 40 percent.

(3) If coverage is obtained on ascending passes, the exposure would need to be changed, on such passes only, such that for those areas of lower sun angle a slit width of .34 inches would be necessary which could cause some image smear. However, the slit width can be changed for more favorable results in areas of higher sun angle. Also, it would probably not be necessary to change the slit width if the coverage is obtained only on descending passes.

(4) The change in sun angle would introduce different heat factors. However, it would be possible to change the paint pattern to allow for the changed heat consideration.

(5) Break points for the critical sun angles were given.

(6) It was indicated that NRO could make all of the necessary adjustments to operate the mission on an 0130Z launch. However, to meet the 7 August launch schedule, the NRO would have to have a decision by the 12th of July as to whether a change in launch time would be acceptable.

(7) The launch time of 0130Z would permit coverage at different times over the difficult tropical belt region and should provide additional coverage beyond that obtained from normal missions.

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c. The Group's discussion resolved that it would be important to ask that NPIC provide a technical analysis of the effects of the mission characteristics as described by NRO. It was recognized that the loss of resolution on ascending passes would be a factor to overcome, but it was trusted that other advantages of the mission would offset this consideration.

d. Comments were made on improving the draft text and outline prepared by [] and it was concluded that [] should redraft a paper for transmission to COMIREX, including the characteristics described by [] and the results of the discussion with the objective of furnishing the paper to Chairman, COMIREX before noon on Monday, 8 July 1968.

Other Business

3. a. [] mentioned that correspondence had been disseminated to the Working Group members relating to the use of [] of the KH-4 system. However, this correspondence had asked for comments by 15 July, but that discussions with NRO had indicated that these comments could wait until early August.

b. [] mentioned that Mission 1104 represented improvements in the pan geometry acquisition system hardware, and that it was desirable to obtain data over the previously established [] test regions. These areas had been used several times previously for pan geometry test data. A letter was prepared for forwarding the NRO. [] mentioned that a copy should be furnished to the Chairman, ICRS, and [] indicated that this would be done.

COLONEL, USA

CHAIRMAN

COMIREX MC&G Working Group

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